

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 12812 131312Z
ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T CAIRO 12812

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR PEPR EG IS US
SUBJECT: FONMIN KAMEL'S EXPRESSION OF CONCERN ABOUT
REPORTED U.S. POSITION RE PERMANENT ISRAELI PRESENCE IN
WEST BANK

1. AT DINNER LAST EVENING AHMED MAHER CAME BY TO EXPRESS
FONMIN KAMEL'S CONCERN ABOUT STATEMENT PUBLISHED IN DAVAR
AND ATTRIBUTED TO WHITE HOUSE ADVISER EISENSTADT. MAHER
SAID KAMEL HAD PLANNED TO CALL ME HIMSELF ABOUT IT, BUT
HAD TO BE AT AIRPORT LAST EVENING GREETING SUDANESE
PRESIDENT NUMAYRI.

2. ACCORDING TO MAHER, DAVAR QUOTES MR. EISENSTADT AS
STATING THAT DURING RECENT VISIT OF PRIMIN BEGIN, AGREEMENT
WAS REACHED THAT (A) ISRAEL WILL NOT BE EXPECTED TO
WITHDRAW FROM ALL TERRITORIES OCCUPIED, (B) AN ISRAELI
MILITARY PRESENCE WILL BE RETAINED IN THE WEST BANK FOR
AN INDETERMINATE PERIOD, (C) THERE WILL BE NO PALESTINIAN
STATE, AND (D) PEACE MUST INCLUDE OPEN BORDERS,
TRADE, ETC.

3. MAHER DID NOT HAVE THE TEXT OF THE DAVAR ARTICLE WITH
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HIM, BUT HAD NOTES WHICH HE CLAIMED WERE TAKEN FROM IT.
MAHER NOTED THAT POINTS A, C AND D ARE CONSISTENT WITH
KNOWN USG POSITIONS. BASED ON MOST RECENT EXCHANGES WITH
US, GOE UNDERSTANDS USG BELIEVES MINOR RECTIFICATIONS
SHOULD TAKE PLACE ONLY ON WEST BANK. IT IS POINT B, I.E.
INDEFINITE ISRAELI MILITARY PRESENCE IN WEST BANK, THAT
TROUBLES KAMEL. HERE MAHER NOTED GOE'S UNDERSTANDING,

MOST RECENTLY REAFFIRMED DURING SADAT VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND ATHERTON'S LAST VISIT, IS THAT THERE MIGHT BE ISRAELI MILITARY ENCAMPMENTS IN WEST BANK DURING FIVE-YEAR TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. THERE HAD BEEN NO RPT NO TALK OF INDEFINITE ISRAELI MILITARY PRESENCE. GOE, KAMEL WANTED HIM TO TELL ME, CAN HARDLY BE EXPECTED TO ACCEPT SUCH AN INDEFINITE ISRAELI MILITARY PRESENCE. THE STATEMENT MAKES IT MORE DIFFICULT, MAHER ADDED, FOR GOE TO COME UP WITH ANY REVISED WEST BANK/GAZA COUNTERPROPOSAL.

4. MAHER SAID THAT KAMEL WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF (A) WHETHER DAVAR QUOTED MR. EISENSTADT CORRECTLY, (B) IF SO, IS MR. EISENSTADT'S STATEMENT A CORRECT READING OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY AND (C) DOES USG IN FACT ENVISAGE AN ISRAELI MILITARY PRESENCE IN WEST BANK BEYOND FIVE-YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD. EILTS

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